

## A P P E N D I X I:

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Cancel Claims 3 and 9, amend Claims 1, 2 and 4 to 6, and enter new Claims 12 to 22 as indicated in the following listing of the claims:

1. (currently amended) A choline ascorbate in form of crystals and having diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $4.55 \text{ \AA}$  which are most intense in a range between  $3.40$  and  $4.70 \text{ \AA}$  in a  $2\Theta$  X-ray powder diffractogram.
2. (currently amended) ~~The A choline ascorbate in form of crystals as claimed in claim 1,~~ wherein the crystals are free from water of crystallization.
3. (canceled)
4. (currently amended) The choline ascorbate crystals as claimed in claim 3 1, having an intensity ratio of the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $d = 4.55 \text{ \AA}$  of at least 0.5.
5. (currently amended) The choline ascorbate crystals as claimed in claim 3 4, having an intensity ratio of the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $d = 4.55 \text{ \AA}$  of at least 0.4.
6. (currently amended) A process for preparing choline ascorbate in form of crystals having diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $4.55 \text{ \AA}$  which are most intense in a range between  $3.40$  and  $4.70 \text{ \AA}$  in a  $2\Theta$  X-ray powder diffractogram, which comprises reacting ascorbic acid with triethylamine and ethylene oxide, and carrying out the reaction in a temperature range from  $-10^\circ\text{C}$  to  $40^\circ\text{C}$ .
7. (previously presented) The process of claim 6, which is carried out in a water-miscible organic solvent.
8. (previously presented) The process of claim 7, wherein the choline ascorbate is crystallized in the solvent used for the reaction.
9. (canceled)
10. (previously presented) Drugs comprising the choline ascorbate claimed in claim 1.

11. (previously presented) Additives in foods, additives in animal feeds or food supplements comprising the choline ascorbate claimed in claim 1.
12. (new) The process of claim 6, wherein ascorbic acid is reacted with triethylamine and ethylene oxide by adding ethylene oxide to a mixture comprising the ascorbic acid and the triethylamine.
13. (new) The process of claim 12, wherein gaseous ethylene oxide is added to the mixture comprising the ascorbic acid and the triethylamine.
14. (new) A choline ascorbate in form of anhydrous crystals having a melting point from 123.5 to 124.4°C or in the range from 123.5 to 124.4°C.
15. (currently amended) The choline ascorbate crystals as claimed in claim 2, having diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $4.55 \text{ \AA}$  which are most intense in a range between  $3.40$  and  $4.70 \text{ \AA}$  in a  $2\Theta$  X-ray powder diffractogram.
16. (new) The choline ascorbate crystals as claimed in claim 2, having diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $d = 4.55 \text{ \AA}$  which have an intensity ratio of at least 0.5.
17. (new) The choline ascorbate crystals as claimed in claim 16, wherein the intensity ratio of the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $d = 4.55 \text{ \AA}$  is at least 0.4.
18. (new) A process for preparing the choline ascorbate defined in claim 2, which comprises reacting ascorbic acid with triethylamine and ethylene oxide, and carrying out the reaction in a temperature range from  $-10^\circ\text{C}$  to  $40^\circ\text{C}$ .
19. (new) The process of claim 18, which is carried out in a water-miscible organic solvent.
20. (new) The process of claim 19, wherein the choline ascorbate is crystallized in the solvent used for the reaction.
21. (new) A drug comprising the choline ascorbate crystals defined in claim 2.
22. (new) An additive in foods or in animal feeds or a food supplement comprising the choline ascorbate crystals defined in claim 2.